Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 02839 051225Z ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 COME-00 AGRE-00 INT-05 /038 W

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R 050835Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY DACCA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9184 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS DACCA 2839

PASS NIH

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: TBIO, TPHY, BG SUBJ: MONKEY EXPORTS

REF: (A) STATE 109868, (B) NEW DELHI 6245, (C) DACCA 1964, (D) 77 STATE 222406 (NOTAL), (E) 77 DACCA 5019 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. ON MAY 3 EMBOFF TALKED WITH SERAJUL ISLAM, A LOCAL TRADEER WHO IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A LICENSE TO EXPORT MONKEYS FROM BANGLADESH. ISLAM AND A PARTNER ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FORMING SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT, INC. TO EXPORT MONKEYS AND PROMOTE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT TECHNOLOGIES IN BANGLADESH, AMONG OTHER ACTIVITIES.
- 2. ISLAM SAID HE HAS BEEN WORKING WITH SCOTT CAMPBELL SINCE SEPTEMBER 1977 TO SET UP AN EXPORT SCHEME FOR MONKEYS AND TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY CLEARANCES FROM THE BDG AND THE USG. ISLAM DESCRIBED CAMPBELL AS A WILDLIFE BREEDER AND TRADER WHO OWNS AND OPERATES "SCOTTY'S PET FARM" NEAR PORTLAND, OREGON. ISLAM HAS NEVER HEARD OF NATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION AND DOES NOT KNOW IF CAMPBELL HAS ANY CONNECTION WITH IT (SEE PARA 3, REF B).
- 3. ACCORDING TO ISLAM, CAMBELL PLANS TO KEEP ANY MON-LINCLASSIFIED

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KEYS IMPORTED FROM BANGLADESH AT A PRIMATE BREEDING CENTER IN BEAVERTON, OREGON. CAMPBELL HAS WRITTEN TO ISLAM SAYING THAT MONKEYS WOULD BE SOLD ONLY TO U.S. BUYERS WHO GIVE ASSURANCES THAT THE MONKEYS WOULD NOT BE MISTREATED OR USED IN MILITARY-CONNECTED, SPACE OR RADIATION RESEARCH. ISLAM SAID THAT CAMPBELL HAS OBTAINED PERMISSION FROM THE U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE TO IMPORT MONKEYS.

- 4. ISLAM HAS PRESENTED HIS EXPORT PROPOSAL TO THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE. HE SAID HE HAD ASKED ONLY FOR A TRIAL EXPORT OF 2,000 MONKEYS (NO TIME PERIOD SPECIFIED). HE IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT HIS CHANCES OF OBTAINING AN EXPORT LICENSE AND EXPECTS THE BDG TO ACT SOON ON HIS PROPOSAL.
- 5. EMBOFF ALSO TALKED WITH JOINT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WHO CONFIRMED INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS REGARDING THE PRESENT STATUS OF MONKEY EXPORTS (REF C). JOINT SECRETARY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN REOPENING NEGOTIATIONS ON NIH'S PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE BANGLADESH MONKEY POPULATION, WHICH WAS SHELVED IN SEPTEMBER 1977 WHEN FUNDING WAS DIVERTED TO OTHER PROGRAMS (SEE REFS D AND E). SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: ANIMALS, EXPORT CONTROLS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 05 may 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DACCA02839
Document Source: ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780192-0262 Format: TEL

From: DACCA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780590/aaaacyss.tel

Line Count: 79 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: a3dbcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION HEW

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 109868, 78 NEW DELHI 6245, 78 DACCA 1964, 77 STATE 222406, 77 DACCA 5019

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: N/A

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2784433 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MONKEY EXPORTS TAGS: TBIO, TPHY, BG

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a3dbcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014